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THE COMMUNICATOR SPRINGHILL PENITENTIARY

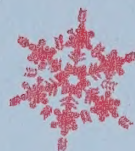
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If I speak with the eloquence of men and of angels, but have no love, I become no more than blaring brass or crashing cymbal. If I have the gift of foretelling the future and hold in my mind not only all human knowledge but the very secrets of God, and if I also have that absolute faith which can move mountains, but have no love, I amount to nothing at all. If I dispose of all that I possess, yes even if I give my own body to be burned, but have no love, I achieve precisely nothing.

This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience—it looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive; it is neither anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance.

Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touchy. It does not keep account of evil or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it is glad with all good men when Truth prevails.

Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything. It is, in fact, the one thing that still stands when all else has fallen.”

... St. Paul
on the Love of the Christ

Dear Family,

It is this Love which we share with you now, during this Christmas season, and throughout every moment of every day. May we all celebrate the Christ-Love in our own Hearts.

Blessings,

Ram Dass, Bo, Sita, Laxmana





THE COMMUNICATOR

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CORRESPONDENCE



MORATORIUM COMMITTEE ON PRISON CONSTRUCTION

Box 2175, Station "D", Ottawa, K1P 5W4

COMITE MORATOIRE SUR LA CONSTRUCTION DES PENITENCIERS

3836 rue St. Hubert, Montreal, H2L 4A5

November 9, 1978.

Dear Friend,

Some time ago, you contacted us in order to express interest in the Moratorium on new prison construction in Canada, and we thank you again for your support. At this time, there is an urgent need for you to express your disapproval of the federal Construction Program to senior federal officials.

The recent federal budget cuts have already had an impact on the Construction Program, and we think that there is a good chance that this impact can be increased. The Committee has learned that the Solicitor General will be submitting a revised version of the Program for approval by Treasury Board by the end of this month (November, 1978). The exact nature of the changes to be submitted at that time has yet to be decided. Official press releases to date have spoken only of "delays" in certain new prisons, and of a capital expenditure reduction of about one tenth of the estimated total cost of the Program. The Solicitor General is also talking about increasing the size of some of the new prisons (to 400 beds) in order to save money.

The decision about the revised scope of the Construction Program will be made within weeks. The Moratorium Committee will be stepping up its efforts to influence federal officials and to educate the public during this time. YOU CAN HELP US BY:

1. Writing to Treasury Board President Robert Andras (at Place Bell Canada, Ottawa K1A 0R5), Solicitor General Jean-Jacques Blais (at 340 Laurier Ave. W., Ottawa K1A 0P8), and your federal M.P., expressing your opposition to the use of your tax dollars for the construction of any more federal penitentiaries. The need for these institutions has never been demonstrated, and numerous official bodies, including the Law Reform Commission, have recommended that imprisonment be used only for violent or dangerous criminals.
2. Writing to the Editor of your local newspapers, expressing the same sentiments.

Time is short. Please write soon.

In the meantime, we are preparing a Newsletter to bring you up-to-date on developments and on our past and planned activities. You should be receiving it shortly. Keep in touch, and thanks.

Sincerely,
The Moratorium Committee on Prison
Construction

Moratorium Committee on Prison Construction

Box 2175, Station "D", Ottawa, K1P 5W4



Moratoire sur la Construction des Pénitenciers

3836 rue St. Hubert, Montreal, H2L 4A5

What is the Moratorium Committee?

A national organization of citizens and groups opposed to the Federal and Provincial Governments' prison construction plans. The Moratorium Committee has been formed as a vehicle to lobby against the expansion of the prison system.

What are the Prison Construction Plans?

The Solicitor General of Canada plans to open 29 new Federal prisons within the next five years. The program will involve the construction of more than 5,000 new cells. The capital expenditure to build these prisons will cost over \$500 million of our tax dollars.

But aren't our Prisons Overcrowded?

On November 1, 1977, the Federal prison population totalled 9,413. Available bedspace totalled 11,280. There were 1,867 empty beds.

But isn't the Solicitor General Talking about Replacing the Old Prisons?

There has been some discussion of gradually phasing out three prisons (Dorchester, Laval, and B.C. Penitentiary). For this reason there is a general impression that it is a replacement program. However, there has never been a firm commitment to close any prisons. If the history of the Kingston Penitentiary or the Prison for Women are any examples of the "phase-out" plan, prisons currently in use will remain in use.

But wouldn't these new Prisons Help Reduce Crime?

There is no evidence that an expansion in prison capacity has any effect on crime rates. For example, there has been a 250 o/o increase in the budget of the Canadian Penitentiary Service since 1970 (from \$70 million to \$256 million). Nevertheless, there has been no decrease in crime. Crime is much more closely associated with socioeconomic conditions which prisons cannot change. The root causes of crime are social policy issues which our government chooses to ignore (unemployment, economic disparities, racial discrimination, alienation, etc.)

But don't Prisons Provide Treatment and Rehabilitation?

Prisons don't rehabilitate. For the past 150 years prison construction and reform has been justified by the notion that improving prison facilities and programs will have an impact on the number of persons returning to crime and to prisons. In fact the brutal and inhumane conditions of any prison serve as breeding grounds for crime.

But aren't our Prisons protecting us?

The Law Reform Commission of Canada has demonstrated that 80 o/o of prisoners are in jail for non-violent offences. Current cell space is more than adequate to contain the relatively few dangerous and violent offenders.

Who would Benefit From the Prison Construction Program?

We can only guess. It appears that the Government is attempting to make political gain by creating the impression that something is being done about the crime problem. The construction program is also being put forward as a means of stimulating the economy, despite the fact that the number of jobs created would be negligible and unproductive. As well, an increase of over 4,000 Canadian Penitentiary employees to staff the new institutions will serve to continue the expansion of the already massive correctional bureaucracy, which presently has over a one-to-one staff to prisoner ratio. The budget for the Canadian Penitentiary Service for 1978-79 is \$338 million, an increase of 25 o/o over last year.

What does the Moratorium Committee Stand For?

We believe :

- There should be an immediate halt to the construction of new prisons (both Federal and Provincial).
- That tax payers' money should not be wasted on the expansion of a bureaucracy from which there is no positive return to society. The construction costs of each new prison cell would be approximately \$80,000. Estimates run over \$25,000 per year to keep someone behind bars, in addition to the cost of maintaining the prisoner's family in the community.
- That the Solicitor General of Canada should begin working to decrease our prison population by using more economical and humane ways of dealing with offenders.
- That the government must begin to recognize the relationship between socioeconomic conditions and crime, and stop responding to social problems by taking more repressive measures.

How can I Help to Stop Prison Construction?

By joining the Moratorium Committee you can help to create a strong citizen's movement to lobby against it. We are asking for donations of at least \$2.00 from each member. This will enable you to be a part of a movement for social change. We will keep you informed of the progress of your Committee. Express your dissatisfaction to your political representatives. Write to the Solicitor General demanding an immediate halt to the prison construction program. Work in your area to promote support for the Moratorium.

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'IST'

* Tell me? Along your trip to eternity, did you meet a Scorpion in your jungle, did he bite you? Did you feel what he reveals? The knowledge and recognition of the secret of the Sacred cow; that permits the understanding of the unfinished harmony of the infinite love, the joy of the party of life, the feasting of the source of eternal light that warms the heart of the warrior when he comes home from a battle in the unknown.

Having worked to understand himself and build himself for peace of mind, he goes toward his eternal discovery in love and understanding. He finds the certainty of knowing that he can love forever, 'cause even when he thought he hated he loved. " The prison is oneself."

In other words, very simply, if I'm caught with myself, I might as well understand myself and love myself, and then be able to love others.

Don't you think ?

Whether it be materialist, spiritualist, intellectualist, communist, capitalist, or all the "ist" or no "ist" at all. Ah yes! I was forgetting separatist and unionist.

Eureka! Whether you hatist me or lovist me that's awright, but for God's sake, lovist yourself. "

Signed "IST"

Submitted by Don Cormier, 6245 aka 4277
Cowansville, Quebec

LOCAL STOPS ON THE SUCCESS TRAIN

Odyssey

Attention to readres: The Millhaven Momentum has been replaced by a new paper called "ODYSSEY". A 47 page issue has been released for August September, and promises to become very definitely a paper worth reading.

Editors George Watson and Howie Brown have compiled a journal composed of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, satire, and the usual collection of acid comment reserved for those imprisoned in severe maximum security prisons. This first issue is dedicated to the memory and spirit of Glen Landers and Isabel Ogima, who both died in prison.

People interested in supporting the "ODYSSEY" group are asked to send \$3.00 to:

Odyssey Group
Millhaven Institution
P.O. Box 280
Bath, Ontario
KOH IGO

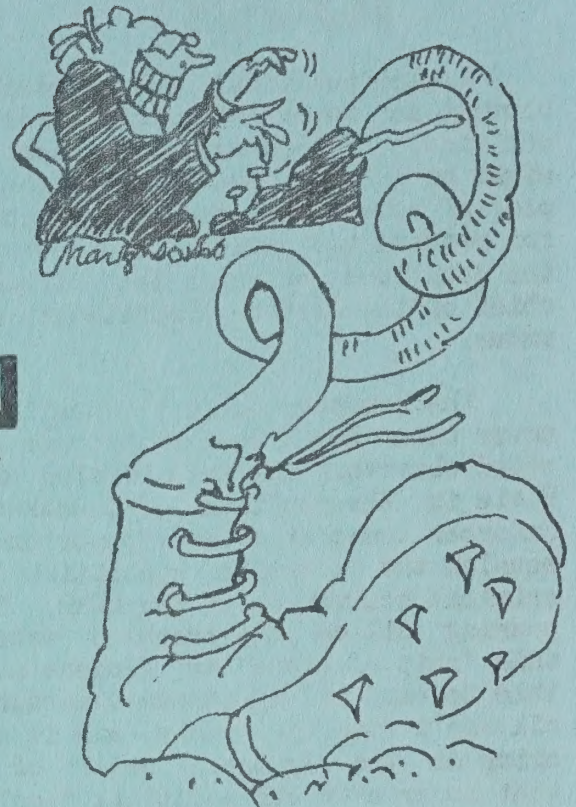
As in the case of all other prison papers, they are in particularly bad financial shape, and need money now.

Springrose

Jacques Rose, convicted in 1973 as an accessory in the 1970 kidnapping of Quebec Labour Minister Pierre Laporte was released July 17, 1978.

A petition calling for the release of the Rose brothers (Paul Rose is eligible for parole in 1980) and other PIQ prisoners was handed to the Parole Board in June by the Information Committee on Political Prisoners, which said it was signed by 40,000 persons, including two Parti Quebecois MNAs.

After serving eight years, Jacques Rose is happy to get out. However, some people interviewed by a Montreal paper had different ideas:



A 23 year old post graduate student said: "Personally I think the entire parole system should be re-evaluated. So first let's review the system. If that had been done, Rose would have stayed in longer."

A 25 year old reseach worker: "I think our justice system is not hard enough. They should give assurances to the population that Rose is rehabilitated before they let him go. Now he could just be like a Lion who escaped from a cage".

A 23 year old secretary: "I think it's ok that he be released after a number of years in jail. I don't believe that he will do the same thing again because what happened in 1971 was in a special social context. It can't happen again."

A 32 year old Insurance Marketer: "I don't think he should have been freed. He was part of the whole mess and should pay for his crimes; that means he should have stayed in prison longer."

An 18 year old student: "I disagree with the fact that he's free. They should have kept him in prison for life".

We can only hope that these opinions reflect the bias of that newspaper, and not an accurate reflection of the people. At any rate, Rose is "free" and said he "is going to continue to work for Quebec Independance".

Tough

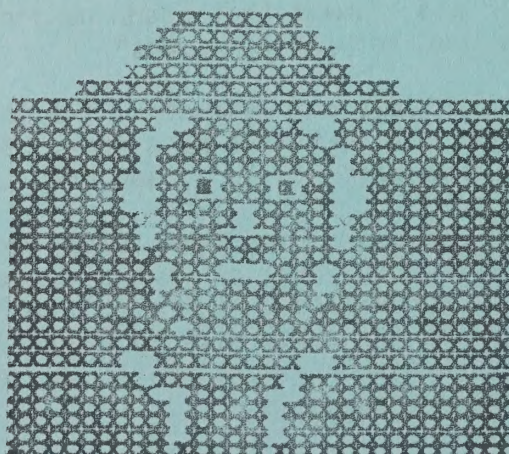
Recent political developments have brought an interesting situation into our view. If one were an historian, we might be able to provide chilling examples of cases where the government has, for reasons too obvious to discuss, made the positions of chief law officer and chief of the Justice Department synonymous.

The Trudeau Cabinet Shuffles have never been 100 % logical to this uneducated observer, but this placing of J.J. Blais in the position of lawmaker and enforcer comes at a time "opportune" to squelch the mounting opposition to the criminal activities of the RCMP. By his pouring oil on the troubled waters of this "ship of state" Mr. Trudeau may be able to ward off immediate disaster, but oil won't stop the rocks, and it should bring on the righteous cries of those that hover over our political "ecology".

I wonder if the upcoming Constitutional debates will attempt to placate the voice of those who feel that the rights of the people in this country are in desperate shape.

Another development on the political scene: The CPS/NPS conglomerate has apparently been directed to prepare for financial recession. Although they are building 23 new federal institutions at a projected cost of at least \$ 20 million apiece, and should make the CPS fee of annual operation somewhere around the three quarters of a Billion smackers, we the inmates, are told to expect cutbacks in "Inmate Programs" and the administration is preparing itself for the year of the "No Grow" budget. Maybe this has an echo where we are told also that program activities will soon be "leisure" only.

It seems the Liberal cycle that we experienced from the early 1970's draws to a close. People have become tired of all this "bleeding heart" stuff, despite the revelations of the Sub-Committee and similar reports. Fellow prisoners are advised to fasten their seat-belts, for this ride may be a rough one.



Appeal

Section 9 of the Parole Act, as amended in October 1977, provided for the making of regulations under which the Board would be required to re-examine a decision to deny Parole, other than Day Parole, or to revoke Parole (including Day Parole) or Mandatory Supervision. The new regulations which took effect on June 1, 1978 make it obligatory for the Board to re-examine such a decision when an inmate's request is received within 30 days of the date he is advised of the decision. If received beyond that date, it may nevertheless "cause the decision to be re-examined". The regulations do not provide for hearings, but specify that Board Members who did not participate in the decision being re-examined should conduct their review by way of a re-examination of material on which the decision was rendered together with any relevant information which was not available at the time of the decision.

Whenever an inmate is notified that the Board has denied Full Parole, or revoked Day Parole, Full Parole or Mandatory Supervision, he will be advised of his right to a re-examination of that decision. It would however be appreciated if institutional and Parole Service staff would ensure that all inmates are fully aware of their rights in this regard.

Note: A supply of these forms has been sent to Parole Service, and should be available from your Parole Officer.

INTERVIEW

The following is a transcript of a CTV interview with John Braithwaite, Deputy Commissioner of Communications for the Canadian Corrections Service (CCS).

It is dated 7/7/78/07:40

U.S. -- Canadian Prisoner Exchange Treaty

Norm Perry: Under the terms of a treaty between Canada and the United States, Canadians who are sentenced for crimes committed in the United States will be given a choice of serving their time either in the United States or in Canada. The treaty will work equally for Americans sentenced in Canada.

Good morning, Mr. Braithwaite.

J.B. Good morning Norm.

NP: Why was it considered necessary to have a prisoner exchange program with the United States?

JB: Well, American citizens constitute the single largest group of foreign nationals serving sentences in Canada. That is a very specific reason. A more general and philosophic reason is that it's been felt that in terms of the whole process of corrections, the process of trying to reintegrate the offender back into his home community, it's better to have him serve his sentence as close as possible to that community to facilitate visiting and pre-release planning.

NP: How does it work?

JB: How does it work? It hasn't started working as yet, Norm. It will start later this year, probably late August, early September. The agreement will be proclaimed, we anticipate, sometime during the course of this month. How it will work will be that initially Americans in Canada will be interviewed by Public Defenders from the United States. They will then be gathered together in Kingston, and that will be the sort of catch - basin for American offenders returning to the United States.

For Canadians in the United States who are currently serving sentences in U.S. Federal Prisons and in the prisons of two states, they will have to indicate their interest in returning to Canada. They will be gathered together in Chicago and an airlift will be made from Chicago. Initially there will be these two reciprocal fairly large airlifts. Following that the transfers will, of course, be of a more individual nature.

NP: I take it, though, that the choice is the prisoner's. In other words a prisoner---a Canadian does not have to come back to Canada to serve his sentence, or an American does not have to go back to the United States.

JB: That's quite right. We're not talking about extradition. We're talking about voluntary committal to return to one's native country to complete the terms of sentence.

NP: Now, do they get, or can they ask for a new trial in their country? It is possible that the sentence would be changed to fit the crime if it had been perpetrated in that country, or do they serve the exact time that they've been sentenced to in the United States or Canada?

JB: I guess a quick answer to that is no to both of your questions. First of all, there will not be a new trial. The individual has to admit that the finding of the court was correct, and he will then return to serve his sentence, but he will serve that sentence under the terms and regulations and opportunities that apply in his native country.

NP: Do we have this type of agreement with any other country, other than the United States?

JB: Not at the present time. We anticipate very shortly a similar agreement with Mexico, and at the present time there are negotiations being conducted with the French government.

NP: It just seems to me---like, I think my first question was why do we have it with the States? It would seem to me that a country like the United States, where the sort of philosophy towards prison reform seems to be quite similar to

Canada where the language is the same where the customs are the same would not be as important as in a country like say Mexico or Turkey or Morocco, where Canadians are in prison and where their prison sentences are dramatically different from the kind of thing that comes out here. Wouldn't that serve a much more effective purpose.

JB: Well, it depends on how one wishes to look at it. The whole concept of developing arrangements of this type, one has to begin where---you've got to build on success, so you start with the country that is most amiable, most receptive and has similar goals and aspirations as your own, then you build on that. I think we're doing that with the United States and building on that. There will be the treaty with Mexico.

And the other thing, of course, is we have to look at the number of Canadians and the number of foreign nationals of whatever country we're talking about who are doing time in Canada. And, as I said at the outset, there are 185 Americans in Canadian institutions, and there are approximately 90 Canadians in American institutions. So we're concerned about---that's the biggest group of mutual offenders we have.

NP: These prisoners, have you talked to any of them so far? Do you know what their response is likely to be when this is ratified?



JB: I have not personally talked with them, but we have some indications of what the response will be. One of our American colleagues, Mike Able at the Justice Department in the United States estimated a week ago that there were 50 Americans who had already indicated their interest in returning to the United States, and some 35 Canadians who are talking about coming back to Canada.

One of the problems, one of the interesting sidelights to this, of course, is that both Americans and Canadians believe in a myth that, if they serve their sentence outside of their country, that they will not have a criminal record when they return to their home country. That's a myth.

NP: They still have the record. The only thing they can do is their time in their own country.

JB: Well, that's a significant improvement.

NP: Thank you Mr. Braithwaite.

JB: Thank you.

An offshoot program of Jaycees is the Accent on Youth program which meets at 1815 on Tuesday nights. A.O.Y. members visit various schools and organizations to share their experiences with the youth of today in hopes that they will not follow our footsteps to imprisonment.

Many people are unable to see beyond the visible results of the Jaycee program to appreciate the true worth of it. Inmates develop a sense of responsibility and self-respect through their involvement with the program. The first benefit received from the program is friendship, a good sense of fellowship, belonging. This is important in helping the inmate gain a good positive attitude toward himself and reintegrating himself into society when he gets back on the street.

In a lighter view, we're a good group of guys dedicated to enjoying our time in prison, making it easier for us and others. We get T.A.'s we're active and involved which all goes on our record helping to get us out the door quicker. Most important of all, one way or another, we're becoming better people for having joined Jaycees.



Jaycees

The Jaycee program is operated by inmates who meet in the auditorium on Monday nights at 1815 hrs. We invite you to come over for one or two weeks to see what we're all about. Then, if you're interested, you're welcome to join. Membership fees are \$20. for one year which comes out of your Inmate Trust Fund.

Jaycees is designed to provide leadership training and self-development to the individual and community service. Training in leadership is obtained through

Leadership training is obtained through various courses, one of which is our Effective Speaking course, and involvement with different projects. These are community service projects such as book sales, food sales, T-shirt sales, etc. for the inmate population and projects such as Con-Walks, Cons vs Cops hooky games, float for parades, etc. which provide funds for worthwhile organizations such as Big Brothers - Big Sisters Association. These projects provide a lot of personal satisfaction to the inmate who watches them grow from an idea to their accomplishment. They also give the inmate an opportunity to leave the prison on a temporary pass, a chance to prove his credibility.

... Jaycee Creed ...

WE BELIEVE

That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life:

That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations:

That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise:

That government should be of laws rather than of men:

That earth's great treasure lies in human personality, and

That service to humanity is the best work of life.



In Praise of Fit

Are you FIT?...I Mean REALLY Fit.

Perhaps you don't really care if you are fit or not,

But if you find ...

- ... you are overweight and can't get it off
- ... you are underweight and can't get it on in the right places
- ... you are the right weight but have it in the wrong places
- ... you flash up in anger at the slightest difficulty
- ... you can't get your breath as much as you used to
- ... you have bowel irregularity
- ... you have a bad back with no real surgical problem
- ... you can't run as fast or as far as you used to
- ... you have weak joints or old sprains that won't go away
- ... you have to puff when lifting a load of whatever
- ... your circulation is poor and you suffer from the cold
- ... you are not satisfied with the way you look or appear to others
- ... you are unsure of yourself
- ... you suffer from weak spells or unexplained dizziness
- ... you suffer from headaches - migrains or otherwise
- ... you suffer from miserable bodily aches
- ... your get up and go has got up and gone
- ... you suffer from body odour or just plain stink

or you just feel depressed or 'blah'

then you should consider RIGHT NOW getting into the programme that will help you with any of these problems in time, if you go about it in the right way - and that programme is '5BX'.

'5BX' is short for "Five Basic Exercises" and was developed by the Canadian Air Force for getting their flight crew in shape for space age planes using today's men - guys like you - and the great thing about the 5BX plan, is that not only is it EASY but it only takes an hour a day for five days a week. Thus, for very little effort, you can be as fit as any flight crew member - or, perhaps even fitter - if you stick with this programme.

The programme that is now taught in the Recreation Centre as the 5BX, has come directly from the flight crew programme but also uses exercises used by the Canadian Navy to improve rhythm, coordination, and balance. It is a graduated plan to get you fit in an all-round way. There are static exercises, but more important, there are mobile or aerobic exercises which involve every important part of your body. No equipment is used and therefore no part of your body can be overstressed, and the exercises are so programmed that no part of the body is overworked and no part neglected.

If you stay with this programme, you will find improvement in many areas of your general health - and this is no 'con shot'.

Mentally, you will find yourself more relaxed throughout the day, you will be able to sleep better and because of this you will feel more refreshed in the morning. Because of the improvement in your whole circulation, and in your sleeping pattern, you will less often feel depressed, low or 'blah'.

Physically, you will find that you are ready to go at any time - not only will you be generally stronger throughout the body, but you will be more active and agile better coordinated and balanced in all your actions. Because of the increase in your circulation, your bowels will have a more healthy function, you will lose unwanted fat, you will tone up muscles that you had forgotten you still had, you will strengthen your joints and back because of the stronger supporting tissues that are built up, you will regain your breath whether or not you smoke (although, of course, you will have much more breath if you don't smoke); and because you will work up a healthy sweat, you will clean out your skin on a regular basis and that in turn will not only eliminate body odours after showering, but also will remove many of the causes and conditions that let blemishes, pimples and acne develop.

Dale Vaughn will be the instructor and will lead the programme group at the following times, until further notice.

Monday, Tuesday & Friday @ 2000 hrs.
Thursday @ 1815 hrs.
Sunday @ 1830 hrs.

This institution is certainly no Shangri - La, but 5BX can help you to feel younger, stronger and healthier - and you should live to a much riper age and in a state to enjoy it than you otherwise have.

Need more be said in praise of "Fit"

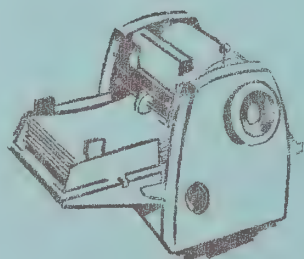


Gestetner

Sales and Service

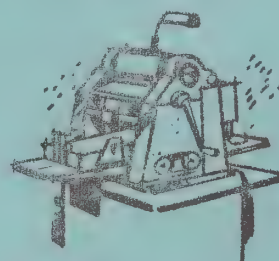
SUPPLIERS OF FINE
DUPLICATING AND
OFFSET EQUIPMENT

COMPLETE RANGE
OF COLOURS IN
STENCIL & OFFSET
DUPLICATING PAPER
AND COVER STOCK



-Coast to Coast-

Gestetner



- Delusion -

There is no gentleness, no softness, no warmth
in this deep cave.
My hands have felt along the cave's stony sides,
and, in every crevice, there is only black depth.
Sometimes, there is almost no air.
Then I gasp for new air,
though, all the time, I am breathing
the very air that is in this cave.
There is no opening, no outlet.
I am imprisoned.
But not alone.
So many people crowd against me .
A narrow shaft of light streams into this cave,
from a minute space between two rocks.
It is dark here.
It is damp and the air is so very stale.
The people, in here, are large, enormous.
They echo themselves when they talk.
And their shadows, on the cave walls,
follow them, as they move.
I don't know what I look like,
nor how these people look.
These people step on me,
sometimes, by careless mistake,
I think, I hope.
They are heavy people.
It is getting tighter and tighter in here.
I am frightened.
If I get out of here, it may be terrible.
More of these people would be outside.
They would crush me, altogether,
for they are even heavier than those,
in here, I think.
Soon, the people, in here, will step on me,
(by mistake, I think) so often, that
there won't be much left of me,
and I shall become part of the cave walls.
Then, I shall be an echo and a shadow,
along with the other people, in here,
who have become echoes and shadows.
I am not very strong any more.
I am frightened.
There is nothing for me, outside of here.
The people are bigger and would push me,
back into this cave.
The people, outside, don't want me.
The people, inside, don't want me.
I don't care.
The cave walls are so very rough and hard.
Soon, I shall be a part of them, hard and
Immovable, also. So very hard.

*

I ache from being stepped on by the people,
in here, but they don't mean to step on me,
and it's just a careless mistake that they do,
I think, I hope.
It might be interesting to see what I look like,
But I can never get into that shaft of light,
that creeps in this cave, because the people
block my way, by mistake, I think, I hope.
But it might be terrible to see what I look like.
Because, then, I might see that I am like
the other people, in here.
I am not.
I hope.

Strip this cave!
Strip it of all it's cruel edges,
That bruise and cut my limbs.
Pour light into it.
Cleanse it!
Get the echoes and shadows out!
Drown the peoples murmers!
Blow the cave up! With dynamite!

*

No I don't - not yet.
Wait until I stand up, in this corner.
Now, I am walking.
There, I have stepped on you,
and you, and you, and you!!
Do you feel my heel ?
Do you suffer from my kick ?
ha! Now, I'm stepping on you!
Are you crying ?
Good.

*

There, there is no cave.
It is gone.
But where did I go ?
I cannot find me.
Where am I ?
Lost.
All I know is that I am cold,
and it is colder, than when I was in the cave.
So very, very cold.
And the people - they have walked on me,
as though I wasn't there, amongst them,
by mistake, I think, I hope.
Yes, I want the cave.
I can grope in the dark,
and feel the cave walls.
And the people, there, know I'm there,
and step on me, by mistake -
I think, I hope.
But outside -
Where am I ?

Delusions" of a schizophrenic
pp. 169-171 Divided Self
R. D. Laing
Penguin Books Inc.,
7110 Ambassador Road
Baltimore, Maryland
21207 USA

on the morning of my execution

anxiety attack

they came
and led me
from the dungeon,
though the shackles
they left on my wrists
and there were
shackles on my feet;
and down stone steps
they led me
and up wooden planks
to the top
of the scaffold;
"And dont try
anything funny,
sonny!" the hangman
threatened me
as he tightened
the noose about my neck

i am awakened
jump up
slap
my face
throw
wateroom
my head
nerves
shot
take
two tran
quilizers
climb
back
into bed
knowing
there is
nothing
to be afraid of

and being afraid of it

Bernell MacDonald

Writing pomes

aint easy,

ya no.

Of course,

it aint

all that hard

either.

Look at the Illiad

don't read it, though

just look,

fondle the pages;

Watch the patterns of spaces

and holes

emerge

a game of snakes

and l

a

d

d

e

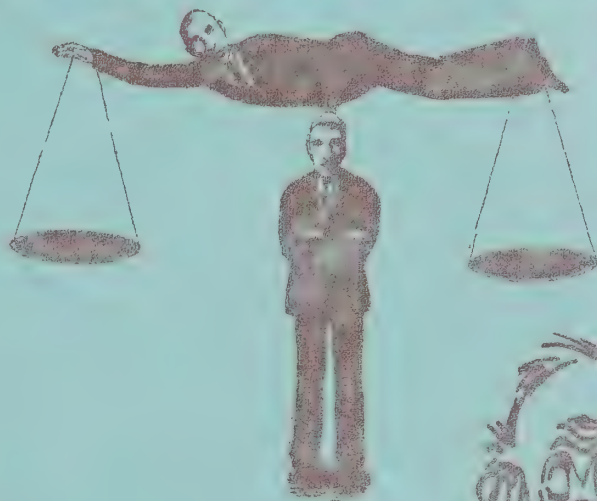
r

s

a word pitcher

just for you

Ma



The crickets have returned
from their summer retreat
in the mountains of Khaza Dhum;

Released from their paper shrines
on a Chinese new year
they flock
to us,
who wait
lighter fluid and smoke bombs;
ready to strike them down

Silencing forever
the mating call
of our voluntary companions.

DEPRESSION

Since I have been to your chasm
and spent some time there
my friend
I can understand
the depth of your despair.

So the question must be
not

"how could you make an end?"

nor

"why did you not stay and fight?"

but rather

"how did you endure so long
before taking that last step
into night?"

POEM FOR A PRISONER

Sun sparkling on untouched snow
my skis making the first blemish
on a perfect complexion.

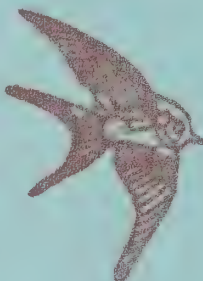
Gone are November's muddy puddles
all is white and fresh and pure.
The mind lifts, the limbs
find new strength striding
in this perfection.

And you
are not flying between
the crystal and the blue
with me
in winter's first vitality

but languishing
in some dank and dreary place,
the dull air holding
no exhilaration
your movements
no ecstasy
your face
no fresh windglow.

Feeling suddenly cold
I turn to go
my lashes frozen
with the tears I cannot hold.

by:Sheila Martindale



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Torbay Road Mall

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ST. JOHN

Parkway Mall

FREDERICTON

Fredericton Mall

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County Fair Plaza

'WHERE YOUR SATISFACTION IS GUARANTEED'

IMAGO

J. O' Sullivan

sculpted wind standing I am eyes hope dark

sun squinting forming

wrinkles creased fucus blur blue

softly sharp dream embers

carve memory's withered fruit

beyond before's now bled horizon

gathered stone flowers

cloister

to dance beneath

mock palpable

god's sky melting face

wrapped in scars unknown

save whistling deaths beckoning mirror ripe

I ponder ebony whispers

dirt slung

capturing

fear, sweat, sleep

touching burst rhapsody in tumid self

Anchored wombrust wanderer

Orchid misbegotten seer

mocking order in the seldom place

crushing moments yet to come

I am a name forgotten on the flyleaf in a book of doom



*Treat a man as you
would have him become,
and he will become
that man!*

Nancy Toth

like drops
we hang,
timid
from the leaf,
trembling in the light.



green in my hands
you lead me,
wordless
to hidden waters

.....

all of the people
stood very still
looking hard
at something
I could not see at all.

.....

I pick
words,
like hens
peck straw
and stone
in search
of seed.

.....

comfort pattern
of tick and tock,
the endless swing
of antique time
cradles turmoil.

the chime of night
is friend at hand,
guard to sleep
like cries of old:
" all is well " .

.....

I WON'T BE AWAY FOREVER RB

Listening as the moans become desires
overheated lust compelling the anxiety
emotions high, lacking reality
communications read through the pores
need absorbed from the touches
wishfully wanting the relief
yet hanging on to the end
passions shared, mellowing as we climb
wave after wave searching for the shoreline
sweet cries forthcoming the climax
saddened, because I had to make love to
you on paper
knowing the real thing is wordless ..

TOGETHERNESS RB

Creation has blessed
our lives

An abundance
of overwhelming joy
within our hearts

Like flowers that bloom
sweetened by nature
such are our thoughts
of familyhood

Loving prouidness
along with togetherness
has nurtured the mother

Tenderly i touch her
patiently awaiting the beginning
Then holding the hand
that feeds me love

We watch
our baby born

3 in a row

Feeding Time At The Zoo

Myself Inside

The rest of the world
if it's still there,
is turning,
But not mine,
It's locked,
I found the key
some time ago,
but I can't have it,
'Too big for me'
they say.

I'm not alone,
oh no,
but might as well be.

In this private little zoo
all the animals are different,
and yet quite the same,
All of them
play games,
some alone,
some together,
and some better than others.
And all together
we play --- Time
--- and there are
few winners.
Nothing's the same,
anymore,
--- as it used to be,
what a funny dream.

Time for dinner!
and the rush is on,
Doors slide on steel
and CLANG!
as they always do.
The younger ones run,
hollering,
threading their way
through the maze
with the energy of children,
Sparked by an equally comparable mentality.
The 'cooler' maze,
and I,
walking,
civilized,
always get there,
and always get fed.
Plates are cleaned
in slurps and grunts
and few words.
The Brave and Daring
sneak valuable cookies
past the Cookie Patrol
and always succeed.

And dinner is done
'till next time.

Gypsy

Time For Breakfast

Stumbling, bumbling, and befuddled,
Ridiculously, conspicuously, confused,
I poke from my "drum"
My head rather numb
Returning to Earth from a snooze.

"Time for Breakfast" bellows the call;
In a daze I float down the hall.
Excuse me I say to the door in my way
As I trip on its lip and recover my fall

Pantakes.....Plopp!! and Porridge.....Slopp!!
And the banquet's about to begin.
The toast's always rotten and the faces still blank,
I'm up.....and awake.....and it's morning again!



"LAND OF WHEN"

3 more

When fairy tales were yesterday
And myths can't be recalled
When you will be just what you are
And the Whole world is.....That's all?

As ground fog clears within my head
Wisps of dreams half remembered
 tell of the Land of When
As I stumble into bed

Where cross street old ladies and senil old men
Run tireless and happy as children again
Pinwheels of colors dazzle the eyes
Flowers that fruit into taste
Perfumes that sing and tingle the skin
Fat turkeys wear suits of lace

Ships blown in crystal for dreams that come true
Sail on seas of imported wines
Grasses make love in sunshine hues
There is no word for time

Giants and dwarfs hold hands as friends
Animals whisper to men
I'd almost forgotten when.....

Try to remember the Land of When
As the road becomes a bit steep
The words now forgotten as we become grown
Are now I lay me down to sleep

SCIENCE FICTION POTATOES

Satellites flashing messages of mans' minute accomplishments
Across purple myriads of space, the galaxy stands silent witness
Vast fortunes spent to confirm, what my senses tell me is
Ritual, incantation, materials conjured up today
Used tomorrow to repeat the follies of yesterday
We call it science

In green retreat there is no escape
For science surrounds us
It never sleeps
Its' magic best performed when no one tends it
Its' chant an unheard song, in power lines and sewer
Embracing all in bowels of earth unseen
Wooden science trees hold it aloft, above all men
Out of mind, it sings its song
This miracle of science

I wonder if, eons hence
The lights will still go on and instant coffee gurgle
From mechanical arm to styrofoam cup
On monday morning without man ?

The wonder of the modern world,
Mans' egotistical stance
That he has discovered something new
Shadow life's lived in blue-grey flicker of T.V. dinner pitches

We skip the ageing, the time refinement
In our children and our wine
And make our food enriched
Yesterdays' science fiction potatoes
Synthetic food
Will someday, beget synthetic man
A soul, a heart Add water from a can!

in a row

Father and Son

I watched a seven year old
Break into jail
With a smile of explosive force

He broke right through the wall
With such impact
That he splattered love and giggles
On me in his enthusiasm

He grabbed his Daddy's
Troubled mind
And took him away

In the process kidnapped me
Into being seven and free

Ed Bourne

You may, or may not be aware of the fact that Dennis Viennet, The Protestant chaplin, may be leaving us. The decision has not yet been finally agreed upon by Ottawa. Dennis was first told that this decision was irreversable. Now the situation is nebulous and will be decided upon in November.

Although we are only inmates, our opinion is valued by the powers to be, if our number is great enough. I have spoken to many inmates and staff who feel that his absence would be a great loss to us all.

You don't have to be religious, or a believer of any kind to consult Dennis. If a crisis arises in your life whilst you are in prison, the chances are, that you will turn to one of the chaplains, because they are not chained to the procedures of the units. If your wife, mother, girl-friend, or any loved one becomes seriously ill. Dennis is there as a sympathetic human being, who will do everything within his power to help you, not just emotionally, but practically to. He can, and does break the unit restrictions to the amount of phone calls you are allowed. He escorts you home to visit your loved one in the time of your emergency. If you can't communicate with your range officer, for various reasons, Dennis is available as an alternative or as an intermediary on your behalf. Whatever contact you have had with him, you can not doubt his absolute sincerity, or generosity of spirit in regarding you as a human being, and not just a number, or a prisoner.

Regarding Dennis' dismissal, there is or will be a petition in circulation. By adding your name to it, you can greatly assist in keeping him here. For those of you who know him, this is your chance to repay him by telling others what he has personally done for you.

Petitions and intelligent reasoning are our only weapons in here against any inhumane action taken against us. Even if you feel that nobody will listen, so what's the use? When you stop speaking up and standing up for what you believe in, that is the time that "they" have won.

Help Him

Who

Helps You



by

David Taylor

A Short Poem

Are you genuine
Or merely an actor
A representative
Or that which is represented
In the end perhaps you are merely a corps
of an actor

Are you one who looks on
Or one who lends a hand
Or one who looks away and walks off

Do you want to walk alone
Or walk ahead
Or walk by yourself
One must know what one wants and
That what one wants.



Rencontre

Du haut de ma planète
j'aperçois toujours sur cette terre
en bas
une fleur aux couleurs splendides
qui éclaire mon étoile comme un soleil.

J'aimerais bien pouvoir lui parler
et lui demander quel chemin je dois suivre
pour la rencontrer.

Mais tant d'étoiles nous séparent
que je me contente de regarder la fleur
et de lui sourire.

J'attends, car je sais qu'un jour
quand les hommes auront compris,
mon désir,
enfin, je pourrais être tout près de
cette fleur.

Et pour moi, rien au monde ne comptera plus
que cette fleur,
puisque je l'aurais apprivoisée et que
nous serons devenus d'inséparables amis.
Car, rien ne peut éloigner,
ceux qui s'aiment...

Anderson Martin

Consideration

The world is such a busy place
There's so much hurry in it;
Isn't it nice, sometimes,
To pause for just a minute -

To stop and think about your friends
who mean so much to you
and then to do some little thing,
to let them know they do.

.....



Support
the
local
Red Cross

6596 Bernard

MESSAGES

A surge of motion on the yard
of this prison camp
could mean one of several things.
A woman.
In which case
the buzzing of the swarm
is a subtle ebb and flow
around the tension of desire.
A death.
Creating the frenetic flurry
of advance and retreat.
Or someone new with whom to suffer.

It's a tribal thing
and messages ripple outward
on pulsing waves of energy
to whom
it may concern.

118

how many songs have i sung sri chimoy

How many songs have I sung?
How many more have I still to sing
here on earth?
Within and without I have been searching
for myself through my songs.
With deep pangs my heart cries,
my self - form is not visible yet.
In the vast life - ocean I am floating all alone.

adversaries wilson stapleton

love is never mentioned between brothers and sisters.
they, knowing its use
are wary of its sound.

outside wilson stapleton

wait outside
wanting to get in
wanting to touch
wanting to feel
 (if your heart will let me)
 but no;
 i am denied,
 denied permission to attend
 these amusements are not free, you say
 and then you admit others who have not tickets
 who are your friends.
 for me
 there are the smiles of laughter
 the snot and sneers
 the farting of my peers.
 you will allow me to hear
 the fucking
 the tear and smell of flesh,
 but you will block my way
 (even if my tickets are stamped with
 this year's date, it will be no good)
 I will be outside.
 the cold winds howl. the snow falls
 and you, the ticket holder
 knew me once outside.



Morris A. McCorvey

THE LOST BIRD

Tired, much too tired,
you close your eyes
on the bruising hurt
of living. Your beak
you leave inside me.

So weak, so young,
this one lost bird
within my hand.
Soft folded wing
small downy head
upon the fluffy breast
have wandered far
from, sheltered nest
but not
beyond the reach of love.

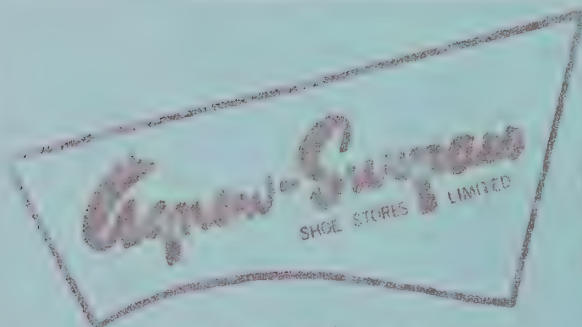
Spread tiny wings above me,
fly to fairer skies
and sing your carefree song
I cannot hear in the place
where lost birds go,
pain and hunger past,
and safe -- safe at last.



by J.R. Brooks

TENDER WING

A little dark, a little light,
We rise at morn and sleep at night,
And all our years are as a day
That swiftly passed away.
With time so short, can it be right
To waste an hour in vain dispute?
Rather, its right that we refute
All claim to individual might
Or dominion over anything,
Except that we ourselves subdue
Our darker nature. So we bring
To all, a gift that will renew,
And Beauty, that flies on tender wing,
Will come to live with you.



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Friday	9 - 9.00
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This is a reprint from "Tarpaper", a magazine originating in Matsqui Medium Security in B.C.



The Canadian Federation of Civil Liberties and Human Rights Associations

La Fédération Canadienne des Associations des Libertés Civiles

INMATE BILL OF RIGHTS

(As ratified by the General Assembly at the Federation of Civil Liberties and Human Rights Assns. Annual General Meeting, 12-14 May, 1978.)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE FEDERATION DEMAND THAT THE FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS ENACT AN INMATE BILL OF RIGHTS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

Fundamentally, the deprivation of liberty in and of itself should be seen as sufficient punishment for the commission of a criminal offence, where such deprivation is deemed warranted. We cannot accept further deprivations which result from this loss of liberty. Further to this, we believe that all prisoners should have all the other rights, obligations and opportunities accorded to the residents of Canada. We also believe that any denial of these rights, obligations and opportunities works against the best interests of society in that such denial inevitably leads to further violence and criminality.

We recommend the following to the Federal Government and all Provincial Governments for all prisoners, whether convicted or awaiting trial:

1. Immediate implementation of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners in their entirety, to which Canada is a signatory.
2. Application of the Canadian Bill of Rights to the entire prison and parole system.
3. The extension of fundamental rights of natural justice to all proceedings and administrative decisions within or without the institution, which affect the rights and privileges of the prisoners. This includes the right to retain counsel of one's choice; the right to notice of all hearings; the right to submit evidence; the right to cross-examine witnesses; the right to full disclosure of all evidence; the right to receive written reasons rendered promptly for any decision; and the right to appeal to the courts;
4. The right for prisoners to do meaningful and productive work with equitable remuneration in compliance with all Federal and Provincial legislation (minimum wage standards, safety standards, unemployment insurance, workers compensation, etc.);
5. The right for prisoners to have full control over their income & property;
6. The right for prisoners to engage in self-initiated improvement, including access to educational facilities and resources, reading material (legal literature), adequate recreational opportunities and facilities;
7. The right for prisoners to exercise their religion, including access to facilities for worship;
8. The right for prisoners to have any visitors, to meet in private, and to have conjugal visits.
9. The right for prisoners to choose whether to participate, without penalty, in any permissible activity outlined herein;
10. The right for prisoners to have complete freedom to communicate by telephone or mail with any party, free from censorship or inspection;
11. The right for prisoners to have access to all information which relates to them;
12. The right for prisoners to have freedom of speech, including participation in the democratic process;

13. The right for prisoners to be held in the least restrictive environment possible in relation to the circumstances surrounding the offence committed, with optimal freedom of movement therein;
14. The right to a formal grievance procedure, including provision for binding arbitration;
15. The right for prisoners to assemble and associate, including the right to establish and participate in social, political or economic groups, as well as to establish committees to represent all inmates in the decision-making process;
16. The right of prisoners to have adequate medical services and the right to refuse treatment;
17. The right of the public to be present, to observe, to be treated with dignity, and to participate meaningfully in the administrative decision-making process of the prison, given that the prison is a public institution; and
18. The right of prisoners to free, adequate legal services.

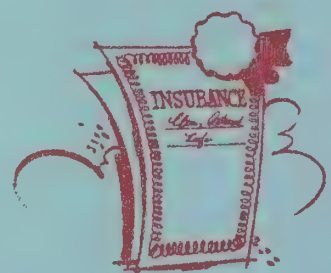
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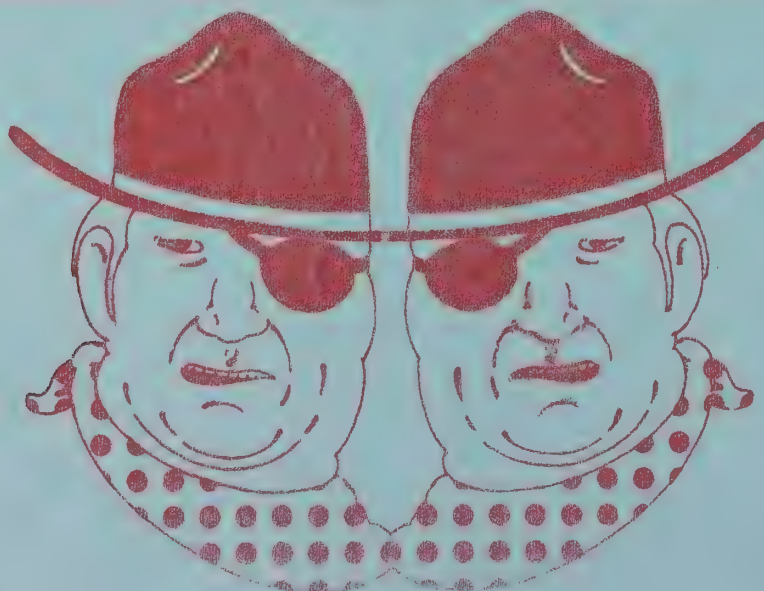
AUTOMOBILE - FIRE - MARINE - CASUALTY



28 CHURCH ST.
AMHERST, N.S.
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Our Twenty Seventh Year



SOMETHING for the SOUL

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against the irreligious and perverse spirit of men who, in this perversity of theirs, hinder the truth. In fact, whatever can be known about God is clear to them; he himself made it so. Since the creation of the world, invisible realities, God's eternal power and divinity, have become visible, recognized through the things he has made. Therefore these men are inexcusable. They certainly had knowledge of God, yet they did not glorify him as God or give him thanks; they stultified themselves through speculating to no purpose, and their senseless hearts were darkened. They claimed to be wise, but turned into fools instead; they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images representing mortal man, birds, beasts, and snakes. In consequence, God delivered them up in their lusts to unclean practices; they engaged in the mutual degradation of their bodies, these men who exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator - blessed be he forever amen! God therefore delivered them up to disgraceful passions. Their women exchanged natural intercourse for unnatural, and the men gave up natural intercourse with women and burned with lust for one another. Men did shameful things with men, and thus received in their own persons the penalty for their perversity. They did not see fit to acknowledge God, so God delivered them up to their own depraved sense to do what is unseemly. They are filled with

every kind of wickedness: maliciousness, greed, ill will, envy, murder, bickering, deceit, craftiness. They are gossips and slanderers, they hate God, are insolent, haughty, boastful, ingenious in their wrongdoing and rebellious toward their parents. One sees in them men without conscience, without loyalty, without affection, without pity. They know God's just decree that all who do such things deserve death; yet they not only do them but approve them in others.

That is why every one of you who judges another is inexcusable. By your judgment you convict yourself, since you do the very same things. "We know that God's judgment on men who do such things is just." Do you suppose, then, that you will escape his judgment, you who condemn these things in others yet do them yourself? Or do you presume on his kindness and forbearance? Do you not know that God's kindness is an invitation to you to repent? In spite of this, your hard and impenitent heart is storing up retribution for the day of wrath when the just judgment of God will be revealed, when he will repay every man for what he has done: eternal life to those who strive for glory, honor, and immortality by patiently doing right; wrath and fury to those who selfishly disobey the truth and obey wickedness. Yes, affliction and anguish will come upon every man who has done evil, the Jew first, then the Greek. But there will be glory, honor, and peace for everyone who has done good.

Romans 1, 18 - 32; 2. 1 - 10



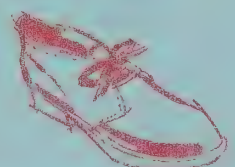
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MOMENTS OF

A Traveller

It was the middle of summer in the Hindi Kush and the place was Gangi, northern Afghanistan, the once famed town of the legendary Ghengis Khan, now laying in almost uninhabitable ruin.

Ghengis Khan not only brought violence, dictatorships and revolutions from his homeland of Mongolia. He also introduced a blood sport to Afghanistan, it is known as Buchkossie. This "Sport" has survived as well as the other things Khan brought from the steppes.

I was stumbling around on a pile of stones looking for a place to refill my supply of water. Later I learned this had once been a wall, but now was only a pile of rubble

Hearing a crowd of very excited people on the other side, I abandoned my search for water and looked instead for whatever the crowd was watching.

After working my way through the crowd to a point where I could see, the attraction seemed to be a field of fourteen horsemen, half dressed in red, the other half in white. The white tunics caught my eye because they were covered with red spots of what looked like wet blood.

One of the horsemen broke away from the others, carrying a full grown sheep under his arm as if it weighed nothing. Blood was leaking out of a wound in the side of the dead animal.

As he approached the end of the field, he was confronted by a line of horsemen, assuming a defensive position, the rider simply swung the sheep by the ankle and threw it about twelve feet in the air over the heads of the defenders. The entrails were falling out all over the men, and you could hear the sheep hit the ground with a thud.

After a very short scramble to the spot where it had landed in the gravel, one of the men got a hold of the mouth of the mangled creature and tried to get down the field, only to be stopped by his opponents. One of the horsemen who had gotten up beside the sheep carrier simply reared up his horse and struck the man on the head with the hooves.

The man obviously dropped the sheep and then fell as though he had been pole axed. The others paid no attention, and pursued the head of the sheep, which had become the object of the game. Only as the field was temporarily clear of the charging horses did his team mates come on to the field and fetch the wounded player, who was laying on his back with blood running out between his fingers. He had already been replaced by another rider. (in this game there are more subs than players)

A man in the crowd who noticed my European dress explained the rules to me in about 20 seconds. The objective was to get the sheep, or the sheep's head if it has become detached, past the opponents line. There are no penalties or fouls, simply the objective of the line.

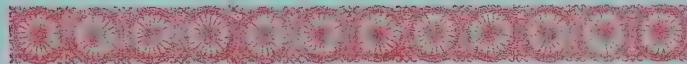
This traditional game has been in use for over 100 years in its present form, although some form has been known since the seventeenth century. This has survived because of the Afghanistan's use of the horse in everyday life, and in the many wars and conflicts going on in that part of the world. Apparently the game I had witnessed was a "friendly".



Dave Taylor

' WASTE NOT WANT NOT '

by David Taylor



You do not have to work in the Kitchen to see the amount of food that is thrown away in here. I know you're probably thinking...."Who wants to eat this garbage anyway...." There are thousands who would eat it, if I could give it to them I would.

In 1974 I was in Katmandu (the capital of Nepal, north of India) and had just finished a western-style meal in my hotel. This hotel was more of a "hole in the wall " with a bed in it than what we usually think of as a hotel. Let it suffice to say that it was very cramped, even worse than the Communicator will be when all the "renovations" are done.

To get back to my subject, I saw a woman walking by with a baby not more than a year old. The infant was screaming, worse than the usual cries to be heard from such a small creature. I got up and went to the door to see if I had really seen the woman and child, because I thought I had seen the child's leg in an unusual position, held there by some string. Indeed, I found the woman was carrying her child, and it really was in pain, the ankle being pulled so severely by the string that the ankle was level with the waist, and the knee dislocated. Fortunately, the manager of the hotel had seen the whole thing, and physically got ahold of me before I had done the woman an injury because of the child; although I managed to frighten her a great deal with my yelling and running after her.

The manager managed to calm my outrage with a joint, all the while I was screaming something at him about the awful thing I had seen, what kind of woman would do this to a baby, to let me go to rescue it, and other impractical ideas.

The joint finally took hold, and my babbling settled down, enough for the manager to explain exactly what kind of woman this was. He said:

"Sir, you have always had enough food to prevent yourself from dying!! Am I right?" I nodded.

"Here sir, is different. Many people. Not so much work. Very hungry always. This woman you have see, have many children, maybe six or seven. Husband he dead. This happen not long ago. So woman have many children and no money. Must have money to buy food. So in maybe three month woman take string off leg. Baby not in pain for three month. Woman go now to poppy field. Work all day. Maybe earn ten or twelve grams of opium. Give to baby and no more pain, right?"

He looked at me and winked. I said:

"Yes, but she shouldn't....." I was about to start preaching again, but he stopped me, saying:

"You want that you tell me what happen here, or I tell you?" I actually managed to laugh at that (must have been the joint) and allowed him to continue.

"This opium very pure, very strong, and small baby don't need more than two grams a day for no pain OK?"

"Then woman sit in street with baby on lap and beg. Collect much money.. (between three and eight cents a day) Can now feed whole family. No more problem. So, Sir, you ask me what kind of woman do this bad thing to little child? A woman who love her children so much that she sacrifice the leg of the newest born so all can live."

I asked him why the woman didn't just sell the opium; I would be willing to take a pound right there and then as

I asked him why the woman didn't just sell the opium; I would be willing to take a pound from her right there and then, as I was planning to stay for at least another six months. We might even get a regular thing going.

"No sir, this very bad thing. If people here eat opium, nobody say anything. Police know opium good for those that have no food and much pain. Sell opium bad, if caught. Five, ten years in very bad jail. Always people die before come out. Then all children die. You see in street how many beggars here."

It was a fact, I had never seen so many beggars in one place. From my own experience, I was always drawn to the crippled and deformed beggars before the apparently able-bodied. So what the man told me made a horrible kind of sense: The woman had obviously planned the future three months. As far as the baby was concerned, a life as a cripple has got to be better than no life at all!!!! The least I could do was to pay for the mistake I had made in frightening her and possible eliminate some of the back-breaking work this woman was about to undertake. I gave the manager some money and told him to give it to the woman when he next saw her, and attached my apology for my behaviour, which was led by ignorance. I knew the manager to be a man of honour and he would do all that I asked (Unlike many of his country-men who would have pocketed it and laughed) In fact he gave a great smile and said:

" I go right now and find woman. Now she can buy opium and food. No have to do work. "

A few days later, just as I was due to leave the "hotel", The manager came into my room, bringing the woman who still carried her youngest. The leg was no longer tied up, and the baby had a docile smile on its face. The leg looked awful, but not as bad as it had tied up. It was just dangling, like a piece of dough, and then the woman took hold of the ankle and brought it up level to the waist. The baby's smile didn't change at all, but I had to tell the man to tell her not to do that in front of me. Seeing a leg being folded in halves tended to upset my delicate western nerves.

The woman placed the baby carefully on my bed and took me by surprise, her arms thrown around my neck, kissing me. She said a lot of words in Hindu, which I don't understand at all. The manager, who stayed in the room, explained to me that she was thanking me (I understood, her motions were universally used to express gratitude) and she referred to

me as the Angel of the Lord (an opinion not shared by Scotland Yard) and may all my bridges be before me when I have to cross a stream. My embarrassment was showing like our familiar fog-lights, and I never saw the woman or the baby again.

So the moral of this long story is:

Perhaps the management of the kitchen could somehow separate the edible material from the unavoidable wastage and give it to the pigs. At least this way, we can all see a return in the form of pork, frequently served here. This idea could take many forms. Think, for instance of a time when a very popular item is served on the line. Don't be in such a hurry to hoard a pile of stuff to throw into the trash. I refer mainly to weiners, eggs, sausages, and other meats which appear often.

Remember * there is another meal in a few hours. No need to pile lumps of bread, cereal, milk beyond what we need for that meal.

At the least, this article will be Food For Thought. It is my belief that if you are taking excess and waisting it now, you will be found wanting, if not in this life time, certainly in the next trip.

I dedicated the text of this to my partner in crime who wishes to remain anonymous. (without whose help this article would not have been possible).



Productive employment

by Lynda Leonard

for prisoners in Canada

In 1914 the Royal Commission on Penitentiaries made this recommendation to Parliament:

There is unanimity of opinion as to the necessity of labour in prisons. No one has had the cruelty to suggest that the prisoners should be sentenced to enforced idleness, that, deprived of his liberty for society's protection, the prisoner should also be deprived of his right to work. Not only should the prisoner be given work but all prison administrators agree it should be purposeful, productive work — work calculated to make him a more efficient citizen when he regains his liberty.

Sixty-three years later and after many reports to Parliament, this recommendation is strongly rephrased as a principle of the Subcommittee on the Penitentiary System in Canada:

Work is necessary for personal reformation. Idleness and boredom are among the most destructive elements of prison life. A full working day, as near outside normalcy as possible, should be mandatory for every inmate capable of working.

One report on the penitentiary system is much like another. The same recommendations surface again and again, fated each time to be ignored or tangled in the web of government bureaucracy. But this time there is a possibility that the repeated calls for effective work programs may cease.

There are approximately 9,500 men

Lynda Leonard is an Ottawa freelance writer.

and women in the 54 institutions within the Canadian Penitentiary Service's authority. The majority are occupied in training workshops, academic programs or in maintenance areas of the institutions. Roughly 1,500 inmates in 15 prisons are employed in industrial programs.

Each inmate, regardless of whether he is working or studying, is paid a daily wage. Wages vary in accordance with five levels from \$0.75 to \$1.95 per day. For overtime they're paid 20 cents an hour. From this they make a compulsory saving and a contribution to the inmate welfare fund. The wage levels reflect a prisoner's deportment rather than the value of the work he does, so it's possible for a recalcitrant machinist to make 20 or 30 cents less than a bottle washer.

Inevitably the paltry pay and the peculiar assignment of wage levels tend to devalue both the work done and the time consumed. One inmate, an experienced welder, explained why he opted for an academic program rather than practise his skill in one of the prison workshops. "I respected my profession too much. I wasn't going to prostitute it for sixty or seventy cents a day."

The low wages also pose a serious problem at the time of release. Inmates pay for their weekly

canteen from their wages. They are permitted to draw from their savings after they have accumulated \$50. They often need the money to take out on passes or to replace worn clothing. Because of the length of time it takes to save the money and because of the various needs that crop up over that period it's not uncommon for an inmate to be released with \$50 or less.

This creates a built-in hardship for the ex-con returning to the street. "The system perpetuates crime," said one inmate of the Prison for Women. "I went out of here after six months with \$20. I had to pick up my kid that afternoon. Welfare wouldn't give me Mothers' Allowance till I had an address. Where am I going to get an apartment for twenty bucks. So, to support my kid, I pulled a boost."

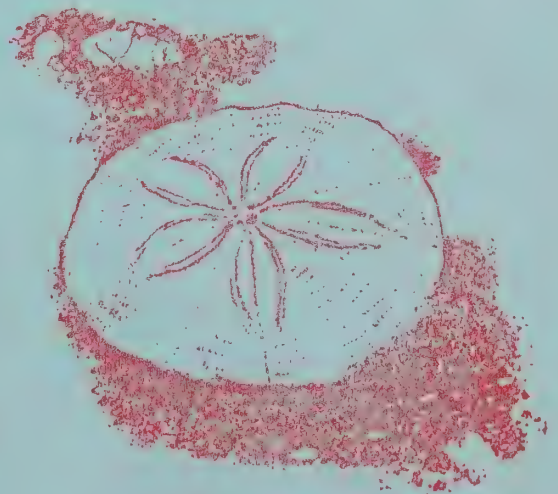
Even if the inmate can make a reasonable saving toward the day of his release and even if he has the exceptional good fortune to find a job, he's generally poorly prepared to keep it. Prisons tend to institutionalize inmates. They rob them of responsibility and the power to make decisions. They also support a negative attitude toward work. 'Stall' is the watchword that gets you through prison, but it doesn't do much to help you once you're outside. Bruce Sanderson, Joyceville Institution's Assistant Director of Industries is aware first hand of the shortcomings of the present industrial program. "Several years ago I was working for Canadian Locomotive.

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This is a reprint from "Tarpaper, a magazine originating in Matsqui Medium Security in Abbotsford, B.C.

"Distrust all in whom the impulse to punish is power — ful. they are people of bad race and lineage, out of their countenances peer the hangman and the sleuth-hound. Distrust all who talk much of their justice! verily, in their souls not only honey is lacking. and when they call themselves the good and the just, forget not that for them to be pharisees, nothing is lacking but power."

****nietzsche****



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I hired some welders from the Kingston Prison, but I had to let them go. They couldn't meet the time standards," he said. "When these inmates go outside they are just not able to cut the mustard."

If a prisoner is eventually to find a permanent place for himself in the outside workforce he must be trained to work; not merely trained in a specific skill, but trained in how to cope with the everyday dilemmas that occur in the workplace. It becomes the responsibility of those who design the industrial programs for CPS to make the prison work experience more meaningful.

The Canadian Penitentiary Service has been a long time in recognizing that inside industries can contribute to the rehabilitation of a prisoner. In the past, recreation and academic programs took precedence. The industries branch was considered, in the words of the branch's acting director, Brian Geraghty, "...an outside, useless, secondary appendage of the corrections system...a form of slave labour." It's only since the late sixties that the department, recognizing the long benefits of prison industries, has begun to implement a serious industrial program.

The result of this shift in attitude is a varied network of manufacturing plants, requiring a wide variety of employee skills, within medium and maximum security prisons across the country.

Between 70 and 80 inmates of the LeClerc Institute are producing landscaping screens — those upholstered partitions that outline cubicles in open-concept office spaces. This involves a three part operation requiring skills in metal working, wood working and upholstery. Warkworth, Cowansville and Mission Institutes have plants producing office desks. The

One perceives a sense of pride in their work and a strong camaraderie.

Mission plant is also producing cell furniture for two new prisons being built in the West. Matsqui has an ambitious enterprise underway producing modular housing units on contract with a local Indian band council.

Although CPS will accept orders from outside non-profit organizations, the majority of their contracts are with the Department of Supply and Services. CPS is now working on getting right of first refusal on any articles the government wants to buy. This ready-made market would provide some security, but the onus would still be on prison plant managers to keep their costs competitive with outside industry. So no plant can afford to keep a labourer who's operating on the stall principle.

The standard methods of keeping labourers productive are used in prison plants. Cash bonuses, distributed on a group basis to encourage co-operation, are given for quota production. An habitually indolent employee risks being fired. But being fired in prison simply means a transfer from one workplace to another. Job security is just about the only fringe benefit CPS offers.

The artificiality of the process of firing is an indication of the basic problem of prison industries: the inside industries bear only a superficial resemblance to outside industries. The labourers work a six-and-a-half-hour day. Their day is short for reasons of security, not due to the success of a strong union. Prisoners' unions are banned. Six and a half hours is the maximum length of a work day. Inmates are continually called off

the job to meet with classification officers, doctors, dentists, visitors and even institution chaplains. These meetings can take hours and are a constant frustration for foremen and plant managers trying to meet production deadlines.

In the area of wages prison industries reflect the real working world least of all. Besides being deprived of the rewards of a decent paycheck, the inmate is given no opportunity to learn anything about managing the little money he earns. The compulsory savings deduction doesn't allow the inmate to make any financial decisions of his own beyond how many ready-made cigarettes he should purchase that week.

Obviously if the CPS is going to provide inmates (many of whom have never worked before) with a true picture of what it's like to hold a job, they must begin by placing a higher value on his labour. But at this point, paying employees a decent wage, combined with the other expenses of running the institutions would make the already high cost (from \$17,000 to \$20,000 per year) of keeping an inmate prohibitively expensive and invite public outcry. Nevertheless, CPS seems to be committed to working toward a more just rate of pay. "I would say that easily 90 per cent of the administrators involved with the penitentiary service favour the federal minimum wage for inmates," said Geraghty. But the road in this direction is long and CPS took its first step only a year ago.

Joyceville Institution is a medium security prison located 90 miles southwest of Ottawa. Since July 1978 it has been the site of an experimental industrial program designed to accurately simulate the working conditions of an outside plant. Joyceville has a large metalwork shop that



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produces lockers, relay and rural post boxes, lateral filing cabinets and steel shelving. It employs up to 48 men in jobs like welding, painting and tool and die operating. It looks like any other metal work plant, except it's a little newer, a little cleaner and a little safer.

The men working at Joyceville are paid an hourly rate. They punch a clock just like their counterparts in outside industry. The rates range from \$1.30 (the wage for workers during the six-week probationary period) to \$2.80. Employees pay income tax, and contribute to Canada Pension and Unemployment Insurance. This last is a real blessing considering the problems ex-inmates have in finding employment after release. The men also contribute a token amount — from \$10 to \$12 per week — for room and board. This is more to provide an upkeep exercise than to defray the cost of prisoner maintenance. And if an employee wishes, channels have been set up to funnel off some of his income to support his family.

Inmates apply for positions in the plant as they become available. There are roughly 45 to 50 applications per opening so the competition reflects the outside job market. Applicants have to meet only very basic standards outlined in the job descriptions. Experience in a specific trade isn't necessary. Employees also face real job insecurity. The ultimate disciplinary action is firing and here the loss in pay from \$2.10 per hour to \$1.00 is a very real deprivation.

Workers put in a full seven-hour day. They're entitled to two ten-minute coffee breaks and a half-hour lunch. Prison business, like meetings with classification officers, has to be scheduled around work hours. Only in emergencies is an employee

allowed off the job and he is not paid for that time.

The really significant differences in the Joyceville plant are the intangibles, like the respect with which workers are treated. The word 'inmate' refers to those who don't work in the plant. Those who do are called employees. Security in the plant is minimal and discreetly placed. As business manager A.M. Chapman pointed out, "You can't expect these guys to work productively with guards breathing down their necks." An employee sub-committee was formed as a medium between labour and management. They handle workers' grievances and have input into hiring decisions.

"It's going to be quite a switch for me," he said, "to walk into a bank and say 'I'd like to make a deposit'."

Respect fosters dignity among the employees. One perceives a sense of pride in their work and a strong camaraderie. This extends itself into the whole prison community. Elitism, dangerous in a prison environment, threatens but the men have transferred those impulses into a stronger sense of community. It's not uncommon for a couple of employees to buy a case of pop for the others on their range who work elsewhere within the institution.

The real payoff for this project comes after release. Employees look forward to better job prospects and financial security. One man has been working in the plant for six months and has saved \$1,800. "It's going to be quite a switch for me," he said, "to walk into a bank and say 'I'd like to make a deposit'." One employee was recently released after spending 12 years in jail. He had never worked at all before getting a position at the Joyceville plant.

He's now working outside as a welder making an hourly wage of \$7.82.

After a year the Joyceville project appears gratifyingly successful. But they've had some problems. Administrators had difficulty selling the steel lockers the plant originally produced and had to lay off some employees briefly as they retooled to fill new contracts with DSS and the Post Office.

This would be a minor setback for private industry but the Joyceville project could be quite vulnerable to such problems. The project will be evaluated, not only in terms of employee rehabilitation but in terms of profitability as well. Administrative bungling or poor market research could put the project deeply into the red and threaten to undermine the one innovation the industrial program has seen in a long time.

Evaluation of this project is going to require great sensitivity, so it gives one pause to discover that this task has been assigned to two men from York University's Faculty of Administrative Studies. This is not to infer that these men are equipped with a narrow range of skills, but the fear does arise that economic profitability will take precedence in their report over the other aspects more difficult to assess. The intangibles are important and can have a long range profitability. "We have restored a man's dignity," said Chapman. "If we can assist in the rehabilitation of one man, that's \$20,000 to our credit."

CPS appears to be firmly committed to the objectives of the Joyceville project. Geraghty expects to see positive steps taken toward these goals on a nationwide basis within the next five years. Hopefully, this will take place before the next parliamentary sub-committee tours the prison. [E]

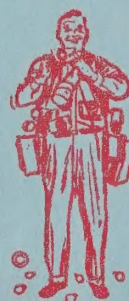
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